

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, UK, US, UR

SUBJECT:SOVIET RESEARCH VESSEL AKADEMIK KURCHATOV

REF: LONDON 5048

1. SUBJECT VESSEL IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN JOINT US-USSR MARINE GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH STUDY OF MID-ATLANTIC RIDGE UNDER PROVISIONS OF "US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN STUDIES OF THE WORLD OCEAN., PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF VESSEL'S PLANNED VISIT TO ST. HELENA IS TO COLLECT ROCK SAMPLES AS PART OF THIS STUDY. APPARENTLY, SIMILAR VISITS ARE PLANNED FOR ASCENSION AND TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

2. DEPT HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT CHIEF SCIENTIST ABOARD VESSEL IS DR. GLEB UDINTSEV, A HIGHLY-RESPECTED SOVIET GEOLOGIST, WHO HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED LENGTHY STAY IN U.S. SCIENTIFIC PARTY ALSO INCLUDES (1) DR. JOHN MALPAS, WHOM DEPT UNDERSTANDS IS CANADIAN CITIZEN OF BRITISH BIRTH AND CURRENTLY PROFESSOR AT MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND,

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(NATIONALITY OF MALPAS PASSPORT IS NOT KNOWN); (2)

DR. PETER VOGT, GEOLOGIST OF U.S. NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC
OFFICE; AND (3) MS. SUSAN HUMPHRIES, GRADUATE STUDENT IN
GEOLOGY AT WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION.

3. REST INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO DEPT INDICATES
DR. UDINTSEV PERSONALLY WAS NOT AWARE OF ADVANCE NOTICE
REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING HMG APPROVAL FOR VESSEL'S
VISIT TO ST. HELENA. THEREFORE, REQUEST FOR VISIT WAS
APPARENTLY SUBMITTED LATE.

4. VESSEL'S SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM IS OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST
TO U.S. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF HMG COULD FIND SOME
WAY, WITHIN CONTEXT OF ITS PRESENT POLICIES, OF APPROVING
THIS VISIT. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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